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A ROMANCE OF THE RAIL

By FREDERICK REDDALL.

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STRONG HEARTS AND WILLING HANDS. It would be difficult to say who were the more surprised, Chester's friends or his enemies, when he was missed on that Monday morning. Dallon was clearly uneasy. He was very "ugly" and berated and abused every one unmercifully. Every foot of the cave was searched, and scouting parties were sent out along Bone gulch as far as the railroad spur without any trace of the fugitive being discovered. The gang dared not show themselves outside the gulch, for by this time Dallon knew that search parties would be patrolling the railroad track in quest of the lost cars.

Draper and his party knew not what to think. The consternation of the bandits was so evidently genuine that no suspicion of foul play was possible. They were forced to the same conclusion—that Chester had escaped, but how? None of them dreamed of the water course as a possible means of exit. So after a deal of bad language on the part of Dallon and his minions all hands, captors and captured, settled down to wait for Monday's sunset, before which hour it was futile to expect Filley's return with the money.

Slowly the long hours slipped away in the semidarkness of the cavern. The ladies bore up well under the circumstances, but the ordeal was a trying one, and Mrs. Hurst declared she should die if she had to spend another night there. Uncle John, as may be imagined, had his hands full.

Madge was perhaps the hardest to manage. She pestered him with questions, she imagined all sorts of horrors, she begged Dallon to "tell her the truth and not to keep her in suspense," to which appeal that worthy replied that he "hoped the blank-blank idiot had broken his neck," whereupon Madge retorted with flashing eyes that the aforesaid Dallon was "a callous brute" and then burst into tears.

The last rays of daylight faded from the patch of sky visible from the of the messengers. Nine, 10, 11, 12 o'clock, and yet no news!

Dallon was getting furious. For the tenth time he put John Draper through a rude cross examination as to the possible causes of delay.

"I told you it was risky." the president quietly replied. "If there has been any slip up, I am not to blame, and I don't believe Filley has bungled." He tried to keep a "stiff upper lip" before both Dallon and the ladies, but his



Madge and her captor. heart quaked within him, not at his, own danger, but at the perils menacing; those more dear to him than life itself. There was no telling to what lengths the villains would proceed if once they became convinced that their plans had miscarried, and what was one man against so many!

So in order to stave off the evil moment Draper professed to believe that the delay was not unreasonable and expressed it as his firm conviction that Filley and the money would turn up before morning. Yet in his own mindhe feared that something had gone wrong. But he threw out a mental anchor to windward in nourishing the secret hope that young Ives had been successful in getting clear and that he would bring help of some sort. So it will be seen that on Chester Ives he really pinned his faith and not unjust-

ly, as the sequel proved. Reuben Filley and his guards rode all Sunday night, and daybreak on Monday found them on the outskirts of, Denver. Here they put up at a roadside saloon, where a team was hired to take Filley to the city and to which place he was to return with the money. He went straight to the bank and presented the draft as soon as the doors were opened, secured the cashand carefully disposed the wad of bills in his inside pocket. Then he drove around to a livery stable, where he put up the horse and buggy, saying he would call for them again in the afternoon. Next he turned his steps to the Union depot, bought a ticket for San Francisco and boarded the first west

These treacherous moves were the result of some serious cogitations during his midnight ride. It was clear that he stood no chance to win Miss Granniss. It was also more than probable that his forgeries could not now be concealed, thanks to this crazy western trip. If John Draper got wind of these, then he, Reuben K. Filley, was a ruined rogue, and he could never show his face in New York again. With \$50,000 in cold cash he could start afresh in another country-Australia, for instance. He would disappear, and people could put any construction thereon that they liked. Most probably the two robbers would be blamed

Weighing these pros and cons, the scoundrel felt no compunctions over the black treachery to the ladies and to Draper. His sole concern was to secure his own skin and feather his own nest at one and the same time. But not until his fingers closed on the money in front of the bank window was his mind fully made up.

The two members of the gang lay in seclusion all that Monday. By noontime at furthest they calculated that Filley should have returned. But he came not. Still they lingered, alternately drinking and sleeping the afternoon hours away. Night came and with it the certainty that something had miscarried or that they were duped.

With black rage in their hearts they ordered their horses and as soon as darkness fell took the trail on the return to Bone gulch from their bootless errand. All that night they rode. Dawn was just breaking when they approached the vicinity of the robbers' retreat. All unconscious of danger, they were riding carelessly, their horses perforce proceeding at a walk, when out of the gloom ahead came the sharp challenge: "Halt! Who goes there?" accompanied by the rattle of carbines.

"Who the blank are you?" was the defiant response, and this betrayed eave, and still no tidings them, to which came the quick retort: "Throw up your hands or you're dead

men!" emphasized by a series of ominous clicks-sounds too well known by the marauders to need any repetition. Letting fall the reins on their horses' heads, they elevated their hands on a level with their ears and in this posture made out a squad of dismounted cavalrymen drawn up across the trail.

"Dismount!" came the command from Lieutenant Crosby, and, covered by the weapons of the troop, the crestfallen villains slid out of their saddles as best they could, whereupon they were speedily searched, their pistols confiscated and their arms securely

"Game's up. boys!" was the ironical salutation of the lieutenant.

"Well, you needn't be so blamed chipper about it," growled Leather Jack. "Tain't our fault. Jim just bit off more'n he cud chew, that's all!"

"See what comes o' trustin a tenderfoot," remarked Bill Root, expectorating savagely.

Lieutenant Crosby stood by, regarding their dismay and disgust with grim amusement.

"I suppose you know what you've got to expect?" he inquired dryly. "This means 20 years at least. We've got Jim Dallon and the whole lot of you just where we want you, and by this time tomorrow you'll all be in Arapahoe county jail." "Will we?" sneeringly remarked

Leather Jack, truculent to the last. "Yes, and you are going to help," was the lieutenant's confident response.

"As how?" inquired Leather Jack in the same skeptical tone.

"By showing us the nearest way to that cave of yours and thereby earning a commutation of sentence for yourselves."

This cast a new light on the subject, at each other. They realized that the game was up, as Lieutenant Crosby had said. Better make the best terms they could while the chance offered. A few minutes' reflection determined their choice.

"All right, lieutenant. We're with you," said Jack nonchalantly. Then: "Better leave them horses They're no good on this trail."

So the troop horses and Mr. William Root were left behind with two of the cavalrymen as guards, and at the order to march the men formed in single file. Leather Jack in front, followed by Lieutenant Crosby, pistol in hand, ready to shoot at the first sign of treachery. Then came Ben Gallup and Chester Ives, followed by the rest of the troop. In single file they proceeded noiselessly down a rocky and tortuous ravine. It was not yet bright daylight even on the heights above. Here in the hollows a slight mist added to the obscurity caused by the faint light. A more favorable moment for surprise and attack could not have been found.

In the cave at this hour all was silent. Worn out by the long vigil of the night before, during which the return lent. Worn out by the long vigil of the night before, during which the return lent at a good speed. As

rily looked and listened for, both prisoners and jailers were asleep. True, there was some pretense of keeping guard, but even those on watch were dozing. Dallon himself was sunk in

Suddenly the bright mouth of the cave, which faced the east, was darkened by a number of stalwart forms. The troopers had crept silently down the hidden approach and ranged themselves in line across the entrance. Once again rang out the frontier challenge to surrender:

"Throw up your hands!"

It was a complete surprise. Dallon himself was scarcely awake when he was pounced on by a couple of soldiers and dragged kicking, struggling and cursing into the daylight. Not a shot had been fired and hardly a blow struck, yet there was the notorious Dallon gang in the toils of Uncle Sam!

Chester Ives was among the first to rush into the interior, and in a few strides he was among his friends, with Miss Madge in his arms, her head on his shoulder and shaking hands with all the others. A great deal may be taken for granted at such a time.

"I knew you'd do it," she sobbed inoherently.

"However did you manage it, Mr. ves?" inquired Mrs. Hurst, who tremulously beamed on the young man.

"You'd never guess, my dear Mrs. Hurst," he replied "but 'twas easy enough, though rather wet. But let me introduce Lieutenant Crosby," he continued as the gallant officer approached, the erstwhile captors having in turn become the captives and being all securd, some of them already on their way



"Throw up your hands!" to fail under a strong guard. "You must thank Lieutenant Crosby and his men for the rescue."

John Draper made due acknowledgments, and then more introductions followed, not forgetting Ben Gallup. "What can have become of Reuben

Filley?" queried Uncle John. "I hope no harm has befallen him." "We've got his escorts," said Crosby,

and they swear they haven't seen him since yesterday morning when he left them in Denver to proceed to the bank.' "Strange-very strange," remarked

Draper. "But it may be that there was some difficulty over the money, though did not anticipate any." "Well, let us hope that you have saved your money and that he has

saved his skin." laughed the lieutenant. Then he inquired: "Now, Mr. Draper, what can I and

my men do to help you further?" Why, the first thing is to get to Denver, I suppose," replied the railroad president, looking inquiringly at

the ladies of the party as he spoke. "By all means," replied Mrs. Hurst. But we cannot go in this plight," she said, spreading out her hands and motioning toward the soiled and disordered dresses of herself and the two younger ladies.

"Cannot we get back to the Miranda?" inquired Miss Granniss.

"Oh, yes; do, Uncle John," begged Madge. "Then we can fix up and get something to eat and go into town in style after all."

"Why, my dear, I don't even know if the cars are where we left them. These villains may have wrecked them, or the railroad people may have discovered them and hauled them away," was the reply.

"Well, can't we go and see?" queried the irrepressible Madge. "We've only got to take the back track the way we

came." "Assuredly the best thing you can do, Mr. Draper," said Crosby, looking at the high spirited Madge with evident admiration. "Even if the cars are not there, that will be the easiest way for the ladies out of the gulch, and you'll and the two rascals looked inquiringly then be within easy reach of the tele-

graph at Castle Rock." So it was decided. The entire party set out, guided by Ben Gallup. Lieutenant Crosby had to make his adieus, his duty being with his command and the captives, promising to see them in Denver and assuring them that they were perfectly safe from further molestation. Ben knew the way blindfold and led them as straight as the uneven trail would permit to where the railroad spur terminated against the rocky wall of the canvon.

There, sure enough, rested the Miranda and the Pullman, dusty and travel stained, but otherwise, to all appearances, sound and unburt.

"But how are we to get out of here?" queried Ives.

"That's an easy one," said Ben. Some one must go up to Castle Rock and telegraph for an engine to pull you back to the main track."

Scarcely were the words out of his mouth than round the upward bend of the track there appeared a hand car bearing half a dozen railroad laborers.

wrecking patrol sent out to look for the Miranda, whose total disappearance had kept the whole division on the jump since Sunday morning.

Crew after crew had passed the disused switch, but none had thought of searching there until that morning.

"We'll soon have you out of this," said the foreman. "All aboard, boys!" And off they went, six pairs of hands at the crank handles, and the way they made that hand car fly up the track was a sight to behold. In less than an hour a light engine backed slowly down, for the disused track was bad, and extreme caution was necessary. coupled on to the Pullman, and with a triumphant toot that woke all the echoes of Bone gulch the Miranda and her human freight went gliding off toward civilization once more.

In less than three hours they were at a hotel in Denver, and that night the papers contained two or three column articles, with big "scare heads," telling the story of the theft of the cars, the kidnaping of the railroad magnate and his party and the capture of the notorious Dallon gang.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Miscellaneous Reading.

DETAILS OF PEKIN'S FALL.

Bravery of the Japanese in Blowing Up the

City Gates. The steamer Empress of India, which arrived at Victoria, B. C., last Tuesday, from China and Japan, brought the first arrivals from the Chinese capital since the recent memorable incidents. since the recent memorable incidents.
One of those who arrived was Fredertain Hayashi thrust himself, carrying ick Palmer, the war correspondent, who an electric lamp. He was able to as-accompanied the allies on their march to relieve Pekin. He said the march single panel and that he enemy was was a very trying one, one of the worst he had ever seen. The beseiged legationers were in a much better condition when relieved than might have been expected. The appearance of the British legation grounds when the relievish legation grounds when the that ing force arrived, was more like that of a lawn party than a long beseiged delight of the long beseiged foreigners and the warmth of their thanks. The

The best narrative of the taking of The best narrative of the taking of and did not seem to be able to express Pekin in the accounts brought by the their gratitude sufficiently. Empress, is undoubtedly that of Jijo "But we were not the first to reach Shimpos, a Japanese correspondent. He the legations. The Indian troops were writes from Shimonesaki, as follows:

the sound of vigorous firing was heard from the direction of the Tung Pien gate, to the attack of which the British, Russians and Americans advanced. The Japanese scouts in that direction reported that the Russians explained that this was not a genuine attack on the city; but a reconnoissance in force. But the truth seems to be that the Russians expected no more resistance at Pekin than they encountered at Tung Chow, and that observing the Tung Pien gate to be lightly defended they had at once proceeded to attack it. The original agreement among the commanding officers, however, had been that the general attack on Pekin should not be made until the 15th, the two days prior being devoted to getting the troops into position and making reconnoissances. But since the Russians had commenced the attack, it became necessary for the Japanese to attempt the same course without delay, so as to prevent the isolation of one part of the allied forces. The Ninth Brigade was selected to attempt to effect an entrance, while the cavalry manoeuvred on the north and northwest

ance as they advanced to the attack. As the Ninth Brigade advanced, the Twenty-first, with the staff, moved out of Tung Chow. These troops moved rapidly into position about 1,300 metres from the Tsehwa gate. They afterward, though, bore to the right and s a stone bridge, and here the advance halted and the scouts came in reporting that the enemy were ranged on the walls in fighting order. The artillery of the fort came into action on one wing and the infantry advanced under cover of fire. The enemy opened a severe fire from the wall, and the Jap-anese troops pushed on gradually, finding cover in the houses on either side of

so high that to scale them was out of the question. Moreover the system of would find themselves exposed to flank gates were quickly breached and enin the rear would find themselves in a species of well, with bullets pouring but with painful pessimism. As an indown on them from overhead. Detachments from Nos. 1 and 10 companies tried to force the gate, but failed. Major Saiki then led the foremost battalion to the gate for the purpose of blowing it up with guncotton; but the ene-my's fire was so heavy that it was found impossible to effect this purpose. The casualties at this stage were very heavy. The artillery received orders to fire upon the enemies crowding the wall. From their position on a knoll, 1,500 metres from the gate, the 16 guns and 14 field pieces kept up an incessant The enemy had a considcannonade. erable number of guns, but seemed to where. At every turn-a paradox. We be ill-supplied with ammunition, for their fire was feeble. The artillery fire drove the enemy under cover, but the indeed, repeat a hundred suggestions, advanced detachments of Nos. 1 and 10 all well enough as far as they go; but were all this time lying under the wall, there is the difficulty—they go so short were all this time lying under the wan, a ways.
unable to advance or retreat. As their a ways.
"Forty years ago the Negro was a position had become temporarily hopeless, the infantry were drawn off and an artillery fire concentrated on its gates. It was impossible though, for him; the North lynches him and buys

carry forward the explosive. The at-tacks of engineers being considered hopeless in the daylight, they were therefore abandoned until after nightfall; but the bombardment of the gate continued.

"After nightfall the task of blowing up the gate was entrusted to a detach-ment of engineers and Lieutenant Taska and seven sappers were told off to blow up the outer gate, and Corpo-ral Sugiminto and seven sappers were assigned to blow up the inner gates. At 9 p. m., the men stripped themselves completely, in order to escape the ene-my's notice and prepared for the attempt. It was a fine moonlight night but fortunately a shower of rain fel as they went forward, and the overcast sky gave them opportunity. The ene-my, evidently prepared for such an at-tack, opened up a heavy fire; but the little engineers pushed on resolutely, and succeeded, although their ranks were sadly decimated, in blowing up the gates. Thereupon three battalions under Major Saquiki charged the gates, swept away the enemy and effected an entrance. The two leading battalions rushed off cheering loudly to the Japanese legation, and the third was sent to assist in the attack on the Tung Chih gate; but as the latter had al-ready been destroyed they returned and took possession of storehouses at In this article, as in many another, the Tashwa gate. The remainder of is easily detected the note of hopelessthe Japanese forces hurried off to assist in the attack made by the Russians on the Tung Pien gate; but they soon learned that the Russians had effected an entrance. The Japanese entered there in succession to the Russians. The Russians had encountered unlooked for resistance and had many killed and wounded. Many also fell into the hands of the Chinese.

Russians. It was standing intact. Be-tween the gate and the ground there was an interval sufficient for a man to not in sight. Accordingly, he and ten men crept under the gate, and ascending the parapet found that the gate was constructed so as to be raised and lowered in a groove. They raised it sufficiently to allow the passage of a horse, and the Japanese troops entered, the Russians following.
"It was impossible to describe the

ladies brought out brandy to the troops

before us. Apparently, the British of-ficers found a special route to the cenwrites from Shimonesaki, as follows:

"On the day after the occupation of Tung Chow, the 13th, the Ninth Japanese Brigade marched from that place with the Eleventh regiment in the van. Four hours later Ta Wa Chang was reached and scouts sent out. These drew the fire of the Chinese as they approached the walls of Pekin and there was some casualties. The scouts reported that the Boxers were beating drums inside the city and making preparations for resistance. At 11 a. m. the sound of vigorous firing was heard canal. It happens that the water in unaided save by the individual efforts the canal was extremely low and the British officers, taking advantage of the fact, led a body of Indian troops ence, established it with the sword, and under the grating, an approach against for nine years maintained a stable rewhich the enemy had made no sort of public. preparations. These troops reached the legations at 2 p. m., on the 14th.

"On the morning of the 15th the Japanese, who had proceeded to the legation, were told off to guard the Ting gate, and the other battalion given partment and took 2,000,000 taels of silver."

THE NEGRO QUESTION.

t Presents Great Problems and the Church Must Settle Them.

Southern Churchman. There is a wise and old proverb which avs and savs well, that "man's extremity is God's opportunity;" that when men have learned their weakness "The advance was commenced from and incapacity and ignorance and futil-Ta Wa Chang on the 14th, at dawn. ity in some great and momentous work, The Tsehwa gate was the objective then is the time they are most ready to point. The weather was beautiful and the troops presented a splendid appearto bare His arm and reveal His might, and do for them what they are incapable of doing for themselves. To our mind, there is no more momentous question under discussion in this country today than the so-called "Negro took the Tung Chih gate from that question." Tals question involves so point. Outside the Tsehwa gate there much for both races, is so far-reaching in its results and consequences, is so vital to our civilization in its issues, comes so close to us in our lives, that it seems strange that any thinking person could treat it lightly or trivially. And that it is really a vitally important question is shown by the place and space it occupies in public thought and discussion. Politicians, scientists, phi-"Upon approaching the gate they lanthropists, educators, and very many found the walls and tower intact and others are constantly discussing it from others are constantly discussing it from almost every conceivable standpoint. the question. Moreover the system of defence was very complete, so that the troops advancing to attack the gate seem unable to come to any practical conclusion. Not long since it was a painand rear fire from the adjacent para-pets. On the other hand, unless the of it seems happily, to have passed trance effected, the troops pushing up away. Now it is being discussed in every section, fairly dispassionately;

> editorial in the Chicago Journal: health and happiness of our republic, is the problem of the American Negro. and hears, not yet having been What are we going to do with him? much outside of his own state since The riddle of existence seems scarce the Kansas City convention, he thinks harder to read, while the riddle of the the indications are that Bryan will be

stance, we clip the following from an

Negro may and must be.
"Much has been thought, spoken, and written upon this question.

of Filley and his escort was momenta- it turned out, they were part of the Yasaki was killed in an attempt to better. It at least gives him what he most needs employment; and it gives it freely. But his chances of employment in the North grow fewer every

year.
"In Chicago the condition of the colored man is rapidly becoming serious. He must live and to live he must have work; and work for him is getting scarce. One seldom sees a colored waiter now in a restaurant or hotel; as a house servant he is well-nigh extinct; few business houses will employ him in any capacity, though he produce a ciploma from Yale or Harvard; we permit him to ride in the street cars with us, which the South does not—though we give him plenty of seat room; and we draw the social line about as strictly as they do in the South, with none

of the South's compensating kindness in other ways.

The mischief was done early. The Negro was originally a servitor, and was well content to remain a servitor. In an evil day for his race ne was raised to citizenship. No one cares to seriously defend the institution of slavery. It is indefensible. But there is a mid-dle ground, which was never taken. We lifted the Negro to the other extreme, and when we placed him there we turn-ed our backs upon him. For 40 years we have treated him illogically, and, in many cases, inhumanly."

ness. And of this we are glad! Yes, glad! We repeat, "Man's extremity is God's opportunity," and now that political quacks and philanthropic enthusiasts have finished their experiments, it is time, and high time, for the church of God to step in and take up the burden and do the work. A fair "The Tung Pien gate does not give direct entrance to the city. The Hata church, and if she will be up and doing, gate, at a considerable distance, had also to be entered. The Hata gate, however, had not been breached by the and unspeakable blessing of solving and unspeakatte blessing of solving what has proved to others so far the hopeless riddle.

A UNIQUE STATE.

Texas Has Paid Allegiance to the Flags of

Six Nations.

Scarcely another state in the union as as remarkable and interesting a history as Texas. In one respect at least it occupies a unique position in the history of the American states. Since its discovery six different governments have at different times claimed its allegiance, and as many different flags have waved over it, those of France, Spain, Mexico, Independent Texas, the United States and the Con-

ederate states.

The foundation of Texas statehood was not laid as a British colony, nor under the grant or control of the British crown, as were those of the original thirteen states. Its first settlement of sympathizing bretheren therein, these colonists declared their independence, established it with the sword, and

Texas was neither purchased nor conquered for the union. Annexation to the United States was accomplished through a treaty made by Texas representatives and ratified by the free suffrage of our citizens. No other state charge of the legations. A company of in the Union has had such a varied ex-the latter proceeded to the finance deseas into the haven of peace and prosperity.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

> LOOTING OF TIEN TSIN.—Into the midst of this scramble came the jacktars of her gracious Majesty, Queen of England, rifles in the slings over their shoulders, both hands free, straw hats on the back of their heads, eyes of amazement and grins of pure delight. Silk in rolls was new to them: but the first torn bundle was the clew Instantly the Chinese recognized the new element, the advent of the master spirit. Coolie after coolie, hurrying to his hutch as fast as he could, paused to offer part or all of his load to the first white man he met. The sailor men filled their arms and piled it up about get a cart or bring some of their mates to help carry the stuff away. They chose it without regard to color or quality or condition. A green roll of silk was as good as a yelow coat and white fur or black made no difference to them. This was the street of the sick merchants on the afternoon that

> Tien Tsin was taken. Everywhere throughout the city it was the same—the Chinese were the first to find the loot; they knew the way. Then came the soldiers and took it from them. Not all; that was im-There were not men enough in the allied forces to do that; but here and there a little, a selection of this and sample of that, and of it all a great pile; but only the fraction of a ittle part of the whole. Hundreds of Chinese who had been slaves all their lives got enough to make them independent and their families after them. The foreigners only nibbled at the edges of the pile; the natives gobbled it all and licked up the last crumb.-Oscar King Davis in Harper's Weekly.

TILLMAN IS PLEASED .- Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, is in Wash-ington attending to some business before going into the campaign for Bry-an. He will go from here to Wiscon-sin, where he will be on the stump talking against "imperialism," for a week. He expresses himself as very "Among the perplexing problems, up-on the solution of which depend the for Democratic success this fall, and says that judging from what he reads

spoken, and Mr. Tillman has just got through What has with a not and a queer fight for suit come to? Nothing. Whither has a premacy in his own state, where he logical consideration of it led? No- has been supporting the dispensary where. At every turn—a paradox. We system against the opposition of both the Prohibitionists and the liquor men. He says that the victory of the dispensary system is complete. Though there has been no opposition to his re-election to the senate, he placed his seat at stake by declaring would not accept re-election if the dispensary was defeated. He says that more than two-thirds of the legislature will sustain the dispensary, and shells to reach the gate, and several his franchise. Of the two the North his re-election to the senate will be